

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for utilizing a data format preference of a device, comprising:
 - connecting a device to a network having a data repository;
 - sending a device format preference to said data repository in response to said connecting at a time the device is initially connected to the network, the device format preference including format information for needed data;
 - saving the device format preference with a network address of the device to be used as a device identifier by the data repository;
 - utilizing, at the network, the device format preference to select the preferred data format for the needed data compatible with needs and capabilities of the device, in preparing the needed data for transmission from the data repository to said device; and
 - sending the needed data to said device in the preferred data format.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising saving the device format preference in the data repository.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the device format preference is sent with the device identifier.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the device connected to the network sends the device format preference each further time it is connected to the network.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is an automatic configuration network, so that any device connected thereto sends the device format preference upon initial connection to the network.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - sending a request for specific information by the device;

extracting, by the data repository from data storage, specific information;
retrieving the device format preference by the data repository using the device identifier;

formatting the specific information according to the device format preference; and
sending the specific information over the network to the device from the data repository.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the device is an electronic device and the request for the specific information and device format preference are embodied as of one or more data packets.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the data repository is an extensible Markup Language (XML) data repository.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7 wherein the data repository includes an extensible Markup Language (XML) database in communication with an Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformation (XSLT) engine in communication with the network.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the request for information is in an Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) stylesheet.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the network is an In-Home Digital network (IHDN).

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the device is any one of the group consisting of: a personal computer, personal digital assistant, television, video cassette recorder, personal video recorder, remote control, and audio system; and

the specific information requested is electronic program guide information.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for recognizing a preferred format of a device comprising:

connecting the device to an In-Home Digital network (IHDN) that has an extensible Markup Language (XML) data repository;

sending, in response to said connecting at a time the device is initially connected to the network or each time said device is connected to the network, an Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) stylesheet request for excerpted electronic programming guide (EPG) information, said stylesheet request including a device format preference from the device which includes format information for specific data of a document, said stylesheet request ~~and~~ being sent over the IHDN to an Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformation (XSLT) engine in communication with the XML data repository, ~~the specific data relating to a specific portion of a document;~~

utilizing, on the network, said device format preference from the XML data repository to select the specific data from the document, compatible with the needs and capabilities of the device, in preparing for transmission to said device; and

transmitting data to said device in the preferred device format.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of utilizing comprises the steps of:

extracting the requested excerpted EPG information by the XSLT engine from the XML data repository; and

formatting the excerpted EPG information in accordance with said device format preference.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the data repository extracts the specific information of the request, formats the specific information in accordance with said data format preference, and transmits the specific information over the communication network to the device.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein the data repository is an extensible Markup Language (XML) data repository, which includes an XML database in connection with an Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformation (XSLT) engine, and the request for specific information and the device format preference are in an Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) stylesheet.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein the network is an IN-Home Digital Network (IHDN).

20. (Currently Amended) A system for using a format preferred for a device, the system comprising:

a network that includes a data repository;

said device, connected to the network and having a data format preference, said data format preference including format information for specific data; and

a data packet containing a request for specific information, said data packet specifying said data format preference and specific data of a document compatible with needs and capabilities of the device,

wherein said data packet is prepared by the device and transmitted over the network to said data repository, said network being configured for using said data format preference in preparing the specific information for transmission to said device, ~~said data format preference stored by~~ from said data repository, wherein the specific information requested is electronic programming guide information.

21. (New) A device for connection to a network, said network including a data repository;

said device having a data format preference including format information for specific data;

a data packet being preparable by the device which is transmissible over the network to said data repository;

said data packet containing a request for specific information and said data format preference, and identifying specific data of a document compatible with needs and capabilities of the device;

wherein the specific information requested is electronic programming guide information which is receivable by the device from said data repository in accordance with the data format preference.